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**OBEY & DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP RENEW EFFORT
TO BRING AN END TO U.S. COMBAT OPERATIONS IN IRAQ**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Seventh District Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI) and the Democratic leadership in the House renewed their efforts to bring an end to U.S. combat action in Iraq today by sponsoring a plan that would establish a different policy in Iraq. The measure passed the House by a vote of 223 to 201.

“It’s become clear that any expectation the White House has that the recent surge in Iraq will stabilize the situation is totally detached from reality,” Obey said. “It’s long past time for a new direction in Iraq, which is what this bill would provide.”

The Responsible Redeployment from Iraq Act [HR 2956] would require:

- A responsible redeployment of U.S. troops beginning within 120 days of enactment and ending by April 1, 2008.
- The President to publicly justify the post-redeployment missions for the US military in Iraq, including the number of troops, duration and cost of those missions.
- A discussion of U.S. national security interests in Iraq and

broader Middle East.

- Specific plans for diplomatic initiatives to engage allies and other in the region to stabilize Iraq.

However, Obey noted that “because we don’t have the 60 votes required in the Senate to move a bill to the President, it is almost

impossible for us to lay on the President's desk this or any other legislation that changes our Iraqi policy in a major way.â€”

â€œBut we have an obligation to keep trying,â€” he concluded.

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